



To: City Council

Cc: Mark Achen

From: Tex Bradford

Date: 1/26/2016

Re: Proposed Electric Vehicle Charging Station Grant Application

Mike McBride, Chief Executive Officer, for Gunnison County Electric Association contacted me a few weeks back regarding electric vehicle charging stations. GCEA installed a two vehicle charging station in cooperation with the town of Crested Butte last fall. Mike shared information with me regarding locations of charging stations around the State and there is a void between Montrose and Salida. Gunnison would be a likely location for a charging station as it is approximately half way between the two and not all electric vehicles are capable of operating for the approximate 140 mile section. The Hybrid models will also desire to recharge at times as well.

There are State grant funds available up to the \$6,000 dollar range. The estimated cost to install a two vehicle charging station is in the \$11,000 range depending upon the chosen location and its relation to existing electric power lines. Mike has generously offered GCEA's assistance in applying for the grant as they have just recently been successful in receiving the grant. My first thought for location is the city hall parking lot near the North/South Alley due to its close proximity to electric power and within 1 ½ blocks to the intersection of Hwy 135 and Virginia and approximately the same distance to Hwy. 50. This would allow the electric vehicle owners a short walk to the business district to shop, dine, and etc. as the charges typically take up to four hours although some go on the their way after 2 1/2 to 3 hours it seems. Should council wish to move forward with this project the location of the station is of course open for discussion.

Funds have not been budgeted for this project in the 2016 budget. Should council wish to move forward I will identify a funding source for the amount above the potential grant for council consideration. At this time it is staff recommendation for council to allow staff to pursue the state grant. At this time no formal action is necessary although it may require a resolution or ordinance be adopted by council and submitted with the application supporting the grant application. If so, staff would bring the appropriate document back to council at a regularly scheduled council meeting for action. The next grant cycle is expected to be sometime this coming March. More information will be provided at the February 2nd work session.